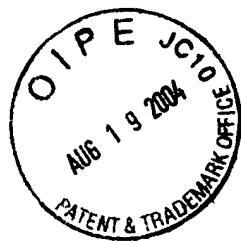


**Sterne Kessler
Goldstein Fox**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael O. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Donald J. Featherstone
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Heidi L. Kraus
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaton
Kimberly N. Reddick
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes

Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Lhulier
Rae Lynn Pngaman
Jane Shershenovich*
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein*
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht
Andrea J. Kamage
Tracy L. Muller*
LuAnne M. DeSantis
John J. Figueroa
Ann E. Summerfield
Tiera S. Coston
Aric W. Ledford*
Jessica L. Parezo
Timothy A. Doyle*

Gaby L. Longworth*
Nicole D. Dretar*
Ted J. Ebersole
Jyoti C. Iyer*
Laura A. Vogel

Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Helene C. Carlson
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Katrina Y. Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
Teresa A. Colella
Jeffrey S. Lundgren
Victoria S. Rutherford

Michelle K. Holoubek
Robert H. DeSelms
Simon J. Elliott
Julie A. Heider
Mita Mukherjee
Scott M. Woodhouse

Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Evan R. Smith
Marvin C. Guthrie

*Admitted only in Maryland
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*Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

August 19, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8525
INTERNET ADDRESS:
BRIAND@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mai Stop: Issue Fee

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/438,358; Filed: November 12, 1999
For: **Enhanced *In Vitro* Recombinational Cloning Using
Ribosomal Proteins**

Inventors: GERARD *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4640001/RWE/BJD/JKM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Statement of Substance of Examiner Interview;
2. Letter to PTO Draftsman: Submission of Formal Drawings (with twenty-one (21) sheets of formal drawings); and
3. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
August 19, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Brian J. Del Buono
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

BJD/JKM:bac
Enclosures

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gerard *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/438,358

Filed: November 12, 1999

For: **Enhanced *In Vitro* Recombinational
Cloning Using Ribosomal Proteins**

Confirmation No.: 9194

Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Leffers, Jr., G.G.

Atty Docket: 0942.4640001/RWE/BJD

Statement of Substance of Examiner Interview

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Gerald G. Leffers, Jr. for the telephonic interview conducted on August 3, 2004. Pursuant to the Interview Summary mailed August 10, 2004, which directs Applicants to file a statement of the substance of the interview within one month from the date of the interview if a reply to the last Office Action has already been filed, Applicants submit herewith such a statement.

During the interview, Applicants requested signed/initialed copies of two Forms PTO-1449 that were filed in the present application on January 22, 2004, and July 30, 2003, respectively, but that had not yet been received by Applicants. The Examiner determined that these two Forms PTO-1449 had not been mailed to Applicants previously and agreed to send copies of the signed/initialed forms.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

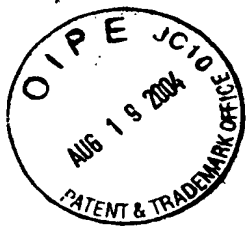


Brian J. Del Buono
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

Date: Aug. 19, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

299379_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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GERARD *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/438,358

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Examiner: Leffers, Jr., Gerald G.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4640001/RWE/BJD/JKM

Letter to PTO Draftsman: Submission of Formal Drawings

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Sir:

Submitted herewith are twenty-one sheets of formal drawings with Figures 1-21, corresponding to the informal drawings submitted with the above-captioned application. Identification of the drawings is provided in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(c). Acknowledgment of the receipt, approval, and entry of these formal drawings into this application is respectfully requested.

It is not believed that an extension of time is required, other than any already provided herewith. However, if an extension of time is needed to prevent abandonment of the application, then such extension of time is hereby petitioned. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


Brian J. Del Buono
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

Date: August 19, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600